

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend Claims 8 and 10 to read, as follows.

Claims 1 through 7. **(Canceled)**

8. **(Currently Amended)** An image forming apparatus comprising:

a rotatable image bearing member on which an electrostatic image is to be formed;

a first developer carrying member, which ~~forms a first developing area in cooperation with said image bearing member, for carrying~~ carries and conveys a developer, and develops the electrostatic image on said image bearing member by a developing bias being applied to said first developer carrying member; ~~a developer;~~

two ~~[[a]]~~ first regulating members, which are ~~member~~, disposed on both sides an ~~end~~ in a longitudinal direction of said first developer carrying member, respectively, and which regulate ~~for regulating~~ a gap between said image bearing member and said first developer carrying member with said two first regulating members ~~member~~ abutting against said image bearing member;

a second developer carrying member, which is disposed downstream of said first developer carrying member in a rotating direction of said image bearing member, carries and conveys a developer, and develops again the electrostatic image developed by said first developer carrying member by a developing bias being applied to said second developer carrying member; ~~forms a second developing area downstream of the first developing area in a movement direction of a surface of said image bearing member, for carrying a developer; and~~

two [[a]] second regulating members, which are member, disposed on both sides an
end in a longitudinal direction of said second developer carrying member, respectively,
abut against two peripheral surface areas of said image bearing member different from the
two peripheral surface areas of said image bearing member against member on a side on
which said two first regulating members abut, and which regulate member is disposed, for
regulating a gap between said image bearing member and said second developer carrying
member; and member with said second regulating member abutting against said image
bearing member,

pressing means for pressing said first developer carrying member and said second
developer carrying member toward said image bearing member,

wherein the two peripheral surface areas of said image bearing member against
which said two second regulating members abut are inside the two peripheral surface areas
of said image bearing member against which said two first regulating members abut in a
longitudinal direction of said image bearing member. said second regulating member abuts
against an area of said image bearing member different from an area against which said
first regulating member abuts in a rotational axial direction of a surface of said image
bearing member.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising
a developer container, which contains a developer, and which has said first developer
carrying member disposed in an opening portion opposite to said image bearing member,

wherein said second developer carrying member is disposed in said opening portion with a gap between said first developer carrying member and said second developer carrying member, and carries the developer with a layer thickness [[of]] which is restricted by the gap.

11. **(Original)** The apparatus according to claim 10, wherein a rotation direction of said first developer carrying member is the same as a rotation direction of said second developer carrying member.

12. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein in the first developing area, a movement direction of a surface of said first developer carrying member is the same as the movement direction of the surface of said image bearing member, and in the second developing area, a movement direction of a surface of said second developer carrying member is the same as the movement direction of the surface of said image bearing member.

13. **(Previously Presented)** The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein in the first developing area, a peripheral speed of said first developer carrying member is higher than a peripheral speed of said image bearing member, and

wherein in the second developing area, a peripheral speed of said second developer carrying member is higher than the peripheral speed of said image bearing member.

Claims 14 through 17. **(Canceled)**